



Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller

August 18, 2017

Former Henderson County Deputy Finance Director Padded her Paycheck

An investigation by the Comptroller's Office, working in conjunction with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, has found that Henderson County's former deputy finance director paid herself and extra \$14,419.44 in unauthorized salary.

Investigators determined that beginning in July 2016, the former deputy finance director paid herself extra money across 18 payroll periods with an average of \$801.08 per pay period. The former deputy finance director admitted to investigators that she paid herself these unauthorized payments. On March 28, 2017, she was terminated from her position.

The investigative report also notes the Henderson County Finance Director informed the County Mayor in July 2016 that the deputy finance director was being paid an unauthorized salary; however, the deputy finance director continued to pay herself this salary until March 2017.

On March 20, 2017, the former deputy finance director reimbursed the county trustee \$12,750.51, leaving an unpaid balance of \$1,668.93. The Comptroller's Office recommends that Henderson County take steps to recover the unpaid cash shortage.

The findings and recommendations from the investigative report have been reviewed with the district attorney general for the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District. On June 1, 2017, this matter was presented to the Henderson County Grand Jury and a no-true bill was returned.

"It's important that Henderson County's Financial Management Committee meets on a regular basis," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "In this case, the committee had not had a regular called meeting in several months. Its role is to provide proper oversight of the county's finance department."

To view the investigative report online, go to: <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/>.

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